

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troop Trains

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 29 September 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED  
Information

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1. The following Soviet trains were observed between 12 and 18 September 1954:

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CB -- converted boxcar;      B -- boxcar  
F -- flatcar;                SSy -- heavy-duty flatcar

<u>Date in September</u>	<u>Number of Cars</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
16	60; empty	-	Greifswald railroad district	Magdeburg railroad district
18	55; empty	-	Greifswald railroad district	Magdeburg railroad district
12	51	1,333	Wuhlheide	Pasewalk
	41	1,200	Gruenau	Stralsund
15	42; 88 axles	1,152	Gruenau	Stralsund
	56; 112 axles	1,381	Wuhlheide	Pasewalk
18	58; 122 axles	1,458	Wuhlheide	Pasewalk

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## 2. Troop trains observed between 16 and 20 September included:

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<u>Date in September</u>	<u>Composition of Troop Trains</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
16	11 B, 28 F	Leisnig	Jueterbog- Altes Lager	2	
	9 B, 36 F	Koenigsbrueck	"	2	
	8 B, 25 F	"	"		
	10 CB, 5 B, 38 F	Donndorf	Jueterbog	2	
	6 CB, 4 B, 35 F	"	"	2	25X1
17	4 CB, 2 B, 16 F	Wuensdorf	Altengrabow	3	
18	3 CB, 2 B, 10 F	"	Cottbus	3	25X1
20	2 CB, 1 B, 10 F	"	Hoetensleben	3	
18	3 CB, 7 F	Trebbin	Altengrabow	3	
19	14 CB, 32 F	Berlin- Schoeneweide	Neubausen near Cottbus	4	
	18 CB, 33 F	"	"	4	
	40 F; empty	Jueterbog- Altes Lager	Wildpark		
20	24 F, 9 SSty; empty	Forst Zinna	"		
	55 cars; empty	Strenberg	Wustemark		

## 3. Troop trains identified between 13 and 22 September included:

<u>Date in September</u>	<u>Composition of Troop Trains</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
13	2 F with T-34/85 tanks	Erfurt	toward Gotha	5	25X1
20	1 B with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia; and 49 F with 49 trucks	Naumburg	toward Weissenfels		
22	9 B with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; an undetermined number of F with 12 x 122-mm field guns or 152-mm gun howitzers; and 30 F with trucks, radio trucks, and field kitchens	direction of Gotha	toward Weissenfels		

## 4. On 17 and 18 September, the loading of 11 troop trains was planned in the Halle railroad district. The actual number of troop trains totaled:

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On 19 September. Two trains from Dessau. The trains from Dessau on 18 and 19 September included 33 CB, 4 B, 200 F. 7

On 20 September. A train carrying engineers, pontoons, and bridge building equipment which was loaded at Jeber-Bergfrieden or Balzig. The train was observed passing through Halle. 8

5. An application for additional railroad cars by the Halle railroad district headquarters was refused by the Ministry of Railroads since an even larger number of cars was to be made available in other railroad districts on and after 18 September. The ministry, nevertheless, offered three trains of Rryn-type flatcars to the Halle railroad district headquarters on 17 September. 9

6. On 19 September, the Halle railroad district was ordered by the Ministry of Railroads to convert an undetermined number of serviceable boxcars. 10

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7. A situation report of the Ministry of Railroads indicated that an increased number of troop trains was to be loaded in the Schwerin railroad district on 20 and 21 September. Empty flatcars from Cottbus were to be made available at Ohrdruf. 9

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8. By order of the Ministry of Railroads, flatcars were to be assembled in the Berlin railroad district on and after 20 September. Frankfurt/Oder, Fuerstenwalde, Kuesstrin, Kietz, Bernau, Brandenburg, Wildpark, Potsdam and Rathenow were designated as assembling areas. 9 The order also stated that 100 boxcars were to be converted at the Berlin-East freight station. 10

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1. Comment. The loaded trains probably did not carry troops.

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2. Comment. At 0800 and 1800 on 15 September 1954, the loading of two troop trains with AAA units, including about 27 light AA guns, was observed at the Koenigsbrueck railroad station. At 0900, a troop train with 16 light AA guns, and at 1800, another troop train with 12 light AA guns and motor vehicles of the 8th Gds Mecz Div were also observed at Koenigsbrueck. The two trains came from the direction of Riesa and proceeded toward Falkenberg. The present report indicates that the above trains carried troops to Jueterbog for combat firing practice. Since, however, the fall maneuvers are believed to have begun on about 20 September 1954, the date of this movement appears to be rather late.

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3. Comment. The troop trains probably carried contingents of the GSFG signal units from Wuensdorf, and elements of the 138th Gds Sig Regt of the Third Gds Mecz Army from Trebbin. These elements were to participate in the fall maneuvers. The units which were dispatched to Altengrabow and Hoetensleben near the zonal border were probably to be employed in the area of Altengrabow - Letzling Heath with units of the Third Gds Mecz Army, while the unit which went to Cottbus was possibly to participate in maneuvers of the 10th Gds Tk Div in the Cottbus area probably with units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div. The movement of large contingents of the 10th Gds Tk Div to the Peitz - Forst - Klinee area on 21 and 22 September 1954 was previously reported.

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4. Comment. The two troop trains probably carried elements of the 24th Gds Mecz Regt of the 7th Gds Mecz Div. The movement was probably made according to schedules prepared by the railroad district headquarters. The schedules were drawn up for troop train operations from Frankfurt/Oder to Falkenberg and Dresden-Klotzsche. They already indicated a planned shifting of components of the 7th Gds Mecz Div to the Cottbus - Dresden area for training purposes.

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5. Comment. [redacted] the tanks belonged to the 20th Gds Mecz Div or 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. 25X1
6. Comment. Since no reports on the transfer of the two, or at least one, fighter regiments stationed at Klausen airfield near Altenburg are available, the entraining must have included army units only. These units either terminated field exercises in this area or came from Altenburg to be transferred to maneuvers. 25X1
7. Comment. The troop trains possibly carried rear details of the 7th Gds Tk Div which moved to the summer camp of the division in the southern sector of Letaling Heath prior to the beginning of the fall maneuvers. On both 18 and 19 September 1954, a troop train with tanks and motor vehicles was unloaded at Haldensleben. 25X1
8. Comment. The troop train probably carried an engineer unit which was possibly employed for the construction of ramps at the Belzig railroad station on and after 13 September 1954. [redacted] 25X1
9. Comment. The information indicates that, in addition to maneuvers held in the areas mentioned in Comment 3, field exercises will also be conducted in other areas of the GDR. 25X1
10. Comment. The converting of boxcars is believed to be the first indication of the personnel exchange movement which is not expected to begin until the termination of the fall maneuvers. 25X1

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